Publication

Files

MEMORANDUM

INT

September 30, 1964

To: J. Lee Rankin

From: Alfred Goldberg ag

Subject: Matters for discussion

1. I have had calls from the White House (Mr. Chase of McGeorge Bundy's office), GSA, and GPO concerning publication of the volumes of Hearings and Exhibits. The White House is considering whether to issue as soon as possible those volumes which are ready for publication now or will be in the immediate future or to wait until the additional volumes of Exhibits will be ready. It seemed to me in my conversation with Mr. Chase that he was leaning in the direction of publishing those volumes which are already at GPO and putting out the remaining volumes at the earliest future date. Mr. Willens called yesterday to discuss this matter and it was his opinion that it is desirable to publish the volumes in two sets rather than to wait until all are ready. It seems to me that this would be the desirable thing to do. I think it likely that an indication from you would settle the matter.

2. There are some problems involved in the preparation of the remaining 2,000 plus exhibits for publication. The most important problem is to arrive at some understanding with other agencies concerning the publication of their classified materials. We should have a list of these classified exhibits in hand today and be prepared to start discussing them with the FBI, CIA, and other agencies shortly after. The CIA has raised the question of publishing the cropped picture shown to Marguerite Oswald by Special Agent Odum of the FBI. We are making final copies of the transcripts from the tapes that will be used as Commission Exhibits. This work is moving forward steadily and should be completed within the next week or two.

3. The problem of establishing guidance to the National Archives for access to the Commission records is an important one and it is incumbent on the Commission to establish this policy. The Commission records contain classified materials from other agencies which probably should not be made available to the public at this time. It seems to me that it will be necessary to review these classified materials with the agencies involved and reach a firm determination as to whether they should be made available to the public or not. We are still receiving a substantial flow of documents which have to be accessioned and added

noted
J. L. R.

to the records. I have arranged with National Archives to come and get the materials taken from the offices of the Commission staff that are not part of the official Commission file. I believe that it will be necessary to keep the Commission records here until the problem of declassifying documents is resolved. Now changed.

4. The problem of disposing of the FBI exhibit in the Conference Room on the first floor of this building has been raised and I think it might perhaps be desirable to arrange for the National Archives to remove the exhibit and make some arrangement for maintaining it and possibly displaying it. When the exhibit is removed it will be possible for the Commission to give up the Conference Room.

5. I have arranged to ship back all of the tapes and films that were lent to the Commission for its use. The Dallas stations have already received their materials and NBC is arranging to pick up its own films from the Pentagon.

6. Some decision should be made on the disposal of items of physical evidence which are in the custody of the Commission.

7. The Department of State (Richard Long of the French desk) has inquired about the visits to Europe of Mr. McCloy and Mr. Dulles. The Embassy in Paris is apparently confused by what seems to it to be overlapping visits for the same purpose. They would appreciate any clarification you might be able to give them.

8. There is a continuing flow of "citizen" mail which is likely to grow into a torrent in the near future. For the time being it may be possible to handle this material as in the past but for the long-range future some permanent arrangement for handling it should be made.

9. Some of the lawyers have requested permission to have copies of some of the Commission records, particularly the overall FBI report on the assassination and the Secret Service report on the assassination. We have, of course, many copies of these reports.